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POPULATION TODAY

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FEATURES

3 Counting the U.S.'s homeless
250,000 or 2 million? Estimates are difficult and varied

4 Sub-Saharan Africa's situation remains grave
World Bank calls stemming region's population growth "highest priority"

5 Landmark immigration bill passed by both houses of Congress
Employer sanctions, alien amnesty ready for President Reagan's pen

5 Rwanda's birth rate among highest in the world
Women average 8.5 children each, according to new survey

6 Are Europeans becoming an endangered species?
Without social policy changes, attempts to raise fertility likely to fizzle

9 Abortion's legality spreading
Sanctioned for majority of world's population

DEPARTMENTS

2 From the editor's desk
2 Speaking graphically
5 Survey report (Rwanda)
6 Demographer's page
9 Positions/professionals
9 Population update
10 Softwhere
10 Take a number
10 Addenda
11 Current readings

Jesse Cohen, National Zoological Park

Will Europeans become as rare as giant pandas? See page 6.

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FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK

The Marriage Scare (continued). Last month *PT* covered a recent study that terrorized countless never-married women over 30 by producing statistics that gave them very slim chances of marrying.

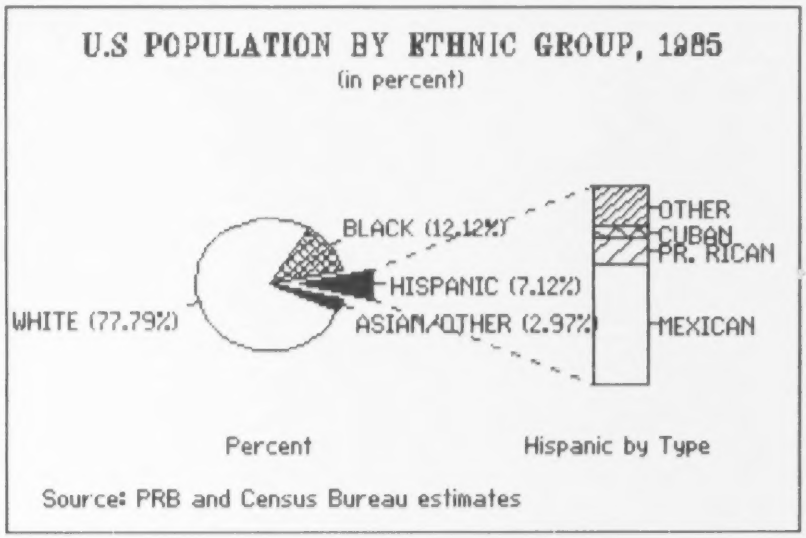
Now there's a new study. And while this study's estimates of women's chances of marrying have been less publicized, many women are bound to find comfort in them. Jean Moorman of the Census Bureau decided to calculate women's chances of marrying using the standard model, rather than the parametric model used by the Ivy League researchers whose statistics worked the media into a frenzy.

Her results: 66 percent of 30-year-old never-married college educated women will marry, over three times the frequency found in the other study; 41 percent of 35-year-olds will eventually marry, as will 23 percent of 40-year-olds. Further, according to Moorman's estimates, 11 percent of never-married 45-year-olds will find themselves at the altar.

But what do these numbers actually mean for women? Which estimates are more reliable? Who cares? There are exceptions to every rule, and women – or men – who are faced with disheartening statistics should simply decide that they are exceptional and that the statistics couldn't possibly apply to them. That's what we do with everything else, after all.

– Janine Adams
Associate Editor

SPEAKING GRAPHICALLY



Increase your productivity! That's why microcomputers whir like vacuum cleaners on all our desktops. Of course, they really do perform many data-processing tasks with awesome efficiency. (For example, in two minutes a single machine can lose more data than 500 workers working full-time for an entire year.)

Producing statistical graphs is another special forte of these wonder boxes. The above was produced with the "Twin" (Mosaic Software), a clone of the ubiquitous Lotus 1-2-3 integrated spreadsheet program. While Twin's graphs ultimately exceed Lotus's in quality, getting them just right requires considerable time investment. (If only I could make that "Asian/Other" legend a little smaller to miss the bar. Maybe I should use a different typeface for the source note. Why in the world won't the program accept one-decimal-place percentages? etc.)

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Counting the Uncountable Homeless

The United States is one of the richest countries in the world, and the standard of living enjoyed by the majoritity of its population is, by world standards, luxurious.

Nonetheless, 33.7 million people in the U.S. lived below the poverty line in 1984 (14.4 percent of the population), according to U.S. Census Bureau estimates. But that includes only those people the Census Bureau can count. People with no residence are not included in the surveys the Bureau takes between the decennial censuses.

As cold weather approaches, concerns about the homeless tend to resurface. It is no secret that in many of the country's shelters, beds are not numerous enough to accommodate those without homes. And for those who are turned away from the shelters or for whom the street seems the only answer, cold weather can be truly life threatening.

Janine Adams

America's homeless (whether they number 250,000 or 2 million) represent a major assistance challenge.

Counting the Homeless

The homeless represent a demographically nebulous segment of the population, one for which data are hard to gather and less than reliable. They have no homes at which they can receive pollsters, and those who sleep in shelters are generally transient, making them very difficult to enumerate.

But various individuals and groups have tried to overcome these obstacles in an attempt to count the homeless. As might be expected, their estimates vary widely. For example, in 1982, the Washington,DC-based Community for Creative Non-Violence (CCNV), an advocacy group for the homeless, estimated the U.S.'s homeless population to be at least 2 million, a figure that was widely quoted in the media. Then in 1984 the U.S. Dept. of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) came out with its own set of estimates. According to the HUD report, the homeless population totaled 250,000 to 350,000 in 1983, well below all previous estimates.

Critics of the U.S. government's response to homelessness (including the CCNV) accused HUD of trying to play down the problem of homelessness so it would not reflect poorly on the Reagan Administration.

For its part, the Census Bureau has established procedures to try to include as many of the homeless population as it can in the decennial census.

> Critics of the government accused HUD of trying to play down the homelessness problem

In 1980, on what was known as "Mission Night" (or "M-Night") enumerators were sent to bus stations, flophouses, or other low-cost shelters looking for the homeless. In addition, the Census Bureau has what it calls the "casual count." Over a period of a few weeks enumerators scour city streets looking for places where people might congregate, such as parks, check-cashing facilities, and welfare offices. Using these two procedures, the Census Bureau counted 50,794 people in "low cost transient quarters" in 1980.

Recent Estimates

Despite the criticism aimed at HUD's 250,000 to 350,000 estimate, a recent study gives some confirmation to those figures. In September 1986 the National Bureau of Economic Research (NBER) issued the results of a study by Harvard University economist Richard B. Freeman which concluded that HUD's figures were roughly correct. The study, taking into account the continued growth of the homeless population, estimated their 1985 numbers to be 343,000 to 363,000.

Freeman and his associate Brian Hall interviewed 516 homeless persons in New York City, including both shelter- and street-dwellers. Eighty-one percent of the homeless persons they approached agreed to give interviews. Then, using a mathematical formula, they established a ratio of homeless persons to the number of people in shelters of 3.23 to 1. Using that ratio, they extrapolated from HUD's 1983 survey of shelters to come up with a final figure of 279,000 homeless persons for 1983.

The study concluded that homelessness is a relatively long-term state for homeless individuals, who average 6 to 8 years without permanent shelter. Overall, the study suggests that economic recovery alone will not solve the problem of homelessness and that without changes in the housing market or in the economic position of the very poor, homelessness in the U.S. will continue into the forseeable future.

Soon after its release, the methodology of the NBER study was assailed as being faulty. Critics such as sociologist Richard Applebaum of the University of Southern California at Santa Barbara, who specializes in the

Continued on page 8

Africa's Food–Population Gap Widens

Stemming population growth has become the World Bank's "highest priority" in sub-Saharan Africa.

In a new report, released in September in Nairobi, Kenya, the international development institution expresses concern that rapid population growth "is slowing development and sharply reducing the possibility of raising living standards" in sub-Saharan Africa. New projections by the Bank show the region's population mushrooming from 470 million to 730 million by 2000.

While the rest of the world's less developed regions are recording declines in birth and population growth rates, sub-Saharan Africa's growth rates may well increase during the rest of the century, the report suggests. Development and income rise have lagged and cultural traditions toward high fertility remain strong. Medical advances have also tended to increase fertility. And the Bank reports "limited" evidence that two fertility-lowering cultural practices – lengthy breastfeeding and sexual abstinence after childbirth – are becoming less frequent. Currently, in many sub-Saharan countries fewer than 5 percent of couples use modern contraception.

The Bank announced its intention to double its expenditures for family planning in the region over the next three years. At present, Africa receives $53 million annually in external population assistance, about 12 cents per person. The report recommends a goal of 75 cents per person.

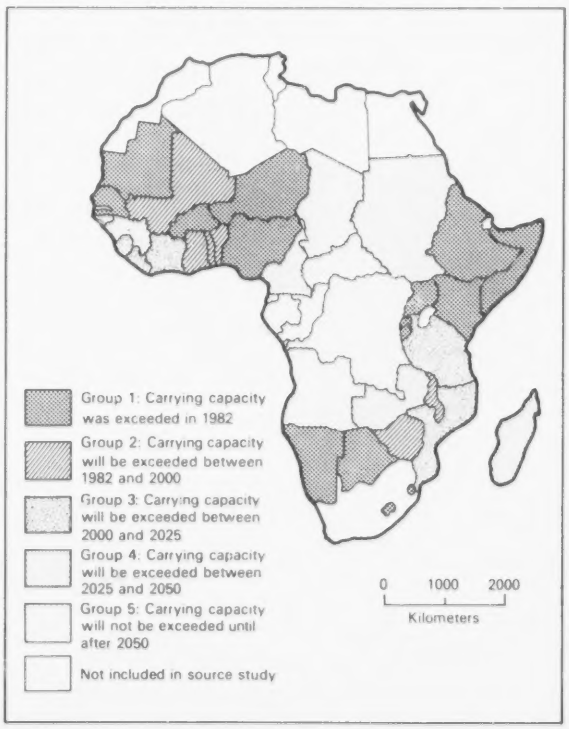
Per Capita Food Production Continues Falling

Meanwhile, the UN's Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) reports that Africa's per capita food production has dropped 20 percent since 1960. Unless population and production trends change, the FAO predicts another 30 percent drop in per capita food production during the next 25 years, as the population-food gap widens.

The Bank report, "Population Growth and Policies in sub-Saharan Africa" is unusual in the sense that Bank studies customarily concentrate on economic issues of development, with demography a subordinate issue (though in 1984, population issues were the major theme of the annual World Development Report).

In addition, the report pauses to examine at some length the negative consequences of rapid population growth (as this issue applies to sub-Saharan Africa). It concludes that while population increase has not been the only cause of Africa's poverty (weak initial infrastructure and subsequent national policy failings are cited), "Africa's population is growing so fast that even a very rapid rate of growth of complementary resources – a rate comparable to that achieved by developed countries during the past 50 years–would not be enough to sustain a rise in per capita incomes."

While many countries in other world regions have experienced dramatic declines in their rates of population growth, "with the exception of Zimbabwe, no documented case of national fertility decline has occurred in [sub-Saharan] Africa," says the report. If unchecked, this growth could mean the "loss of long-run potential for higher economic growth and rising living standards, higher maternal and child mortality ... further degradation of the national environment ... tighter constraints on extending education and basic health care ... and falling wages as the labor force grows more rapidly than complementary investments."


Group 1: Carrying capacity was exceeded in 1982
Group 2: Carrying capacity will be exceeded between 1982 and 2000
Group 3: Carrying capacity will be exceeded between 2000 and 2025
Group 4: Carrying capacity will be exceeded between 2025 and 2050
Group 5: Carrying capacity will not be exceeded until after 2050
Not included in source study
0 1000 2000
Kilometers

The map on this page shows projections of sub-Saharan African countries which have already reached or exceeded their theoretical population carrying capacity.

Included in the Bank report, this map assumes certain assumptions: all cultivable land is being used for growing food, food imports are nil, and agriculture is produced by low technology methods. Those assumptions are not far off. Importation of food requires either assistance or a source of foreign exchange (i.e., exports). Upgrading of agricultural technology requires considerable investment or assistance.

War, Pestilence, and Drought

And Africa's assistance needs are as great as ever. Although the region-wide drought has largely ended, rains and other climatic factors have encouraged new locust infestations, in many of the region's countries. Civil war in the Sudan and in Ethiopia has resulted in food politics, with rebels and governments controlling the transport of shipments of emergency food.

The region as a whole suffers from overvalued currencies, and from historical political situations that favor urban over rural constituencies (the urban areas themselves growing because of internal migration). This year, nearly 18 million Africans depended on food distribution for survival, the UN Office of Emergency Operations in Africa has reported.

Nevertheless, with the region out of the headlines, consistent nonemergency aid has dried up. Last summer the UN passed a nonbinding resolution calling for donor countries to participate in a five-year, $100 billion Priority Program to develop African countries' economies and assist them with debt servicing. But this comes at a time when total aid for Africa is weakening, down from $8.5 billion annually in 1980 to $6.7 billion in 1984. –*A.H.*

Immigration Bill at Goal Line

U.S. immigration reform is nearly the law of the land.

Dead as a doornail in the U.S. Congress only two weeks earlier, the immigration bill sprang back to life in early October. A controversial side issue – alien agricultural workers – was resolved, and the bill passed the House on Oct. 9, by a vote of 230 to 166.

The bill was rapidly reconciled in House-Senate conference, and the compromise bill went back to each house for final approval, passing the Senate Oct. 17. At press time the only step remaining is President Reagan's signature. Assuming he signs the bill (considered very likely), the U.S. will have its most far reaching immigration-law overhaul in decades.

The bill's main features:

Employer sanctions: Civil penalty fines for knowingly hiring illegal aliens start at $500 per alien for a first offense. Employers can also receive criminal penalties (maximum prison sentence of six months) for a "pattern or practice" of violation.

Amnesty: Aliens able to prove they have lived in the U.S. since before Jan. 1, 1982 can apply for temporary resident status for a year; then permanent resident status for five years; then U.S. citizenship.

Agriculture: Illegal alien farmworkers may similarly gain legal status if they worked in the U.S. at least 90 days in the year prior to May 1, 1986. (This provision assuages concerns of Western growers concerning sufficient labor supply.)

Aid: The federal government is to spend $1 billion per year for four years to reimburse state agencies for benefits given aliens.
the need becomes apparent.

Identification: No national ID card is called for at this time. Employers are required to ask job applicants for documents proving either citizenship or resident alien status. (The bill does give the President power to implement some system to identify legal employees if the need becomes apparent.) *– A.H.*

SURVEY REPORT

Rwanda

A tiny landlocked republic in Eastern Africa, Rwanda has one of the highest birth rates in the world, according to a fertility survey conducted there in 1983. With Rwanda's 6.5 million, mostly agriculture-engaged inhabitants already pushing the limits of its lush farmland, the high rate of population growth has become a source of government concern.

Data collection problems make it hard to prove, but fertility in Rwanda quite likely has increased since the 1960s because of improved health conditions. In 1970, the total fertility rate (TFR) was measured at 7.7 children per woman, while the 1983 survey measured a TFR of 8.5 during the early 1980s, one of the highest recorded in this decade. Infant mortality has declined since the 1960s, but 120 to 150 infants still die per 1,000 births. Again, these are among the highest rates in the world.

Contributing to the high fertility, the average Rwandan woman is married before age 20, and has her first child before her second wedding anniversary.

Rwandan women say they prefer an average of 6.3 children, substantially less than the current TFR of 8.5. Husbands interviewed said they wanted slightly fewer, about 5.9 children. Family planning has not been popular, however. Only 11 percent of the currently married women over age 15 use any form of family planning, and 80 percent of these use periodic abstinence. Among an elite group of educated women in urban areas, contraceptive use is much higher, but the vast majority of Rwandans are rural and illiterate. Nearly 50 percent of the women who said they wanted no more children reported that they could "envision" using family planning in the future, while 39 percent of those wanting no more children said they would never use it.

Embassy of Rwanda

Rwanda's women average 8.5 children during their lifetime.

Other factors probably keeping the birth rate from going even higher include a rather late age for the onset of menstruation (15.3 years of age) and prolonged breastfeeding, which suppresses fertility. Children are breastfed for just over 20 months, on average, though younger women tend to wean their children sooner.

One factor which encourages high fertility is the lack of a taboo on postpartum intercourse which is prevalent practice in some African countries. In other African nations, this postpartum abstinence can last for as long as two years, or until the child is weaned.

The prospects for fertility decline in Rwanda are not bright given the almost nonexistent use of modern contraceptives and the early age at marriage. However, the fact that women admit to wanting fewer children than they are currently having shows that they might be receptive to family planning education, a first step toward its use. *– M.K.*

DEMOGRAPHER'S PAGE

Europeans an Endangered Species?

by Alexander von Cube

For 21 of Europe's 27 countries, "below replacement fertility" is a reality. Their average total fertility rate (TFR) is now 1.69. (With a TFR of 2.1, a little over two children per woman, a country's population just "replaces" itself – not counting migration.)

Below-replacement fertility is both an old and a new human phenomenon. Old, because for most of history, humanity's fertility was in a desperate race to stay as high as mortality; new, because today the fertility of most modern industrial states seems to be jockeying to become lower than mortality. (No magic "natural" arresting hook snagged Europe as it plummeted past the 2.1. TFR mark.)

Is sustained below-replacement fertility a major European problem? What is the general European policy response to the below-replacement phenomenon? This article will attempt to recount some of the story thus far.

Good or Bad?

"It is hardly possible today," says Danish demography professor P.C. Matthiessen, "to assess the advantages and disadvantages of a declining population and then draw a definite conclusion."

Modern nations, however, need to make precise fiscal and economic plans. They tend to perceive fertility decline as destabilizing, with major consequences for economic markets, national power, and social services. Their political leaders have traditionally viewed declining fertility as tantamount to declining national power. Their two major concerns: (1) the issue of insufficient numbers in the economically active population and (2) prospective personnel shortages in the ranks of the military. (Nonetheless, not all European countries perceive the present low level of fertility as unsatisfactory, the Netherlands being one exception.)

The Federal Republic of Germany (FRG) continues to experience the most strikingly low fertility of any country in the world. Its fertility has been below replacement for the past 17 years, and in 1984 its TFR hit a world record national low of 1.28 in 1985. Its population has been dropping by some 100,000 every year, and demographers have (not altogether seriously) projected Germany's demographic near-oblivion. In 2132, everything else being equal, mathematical inevitability shows Germany's population shrinking to a mere 9 million people.

> Without increased services such as child care and massive economic incentives, policies that aim to increase fertility seem bound to fail

Pronatalism and Family Assistance

Germany's fertility dearth has been repeated in somewhat less drastic form, in such countries as Denmark (with an estimated 1986 TFR of 1.4) and Austria, Italy, the Netherlands, and Switzerland (with estimated TFRs of 1.5). This widespread trend toward "negative growth" has not escaped the notice of Europe's policymakers. Political rhetoric, however, is one thing; formulating policy and (especially) implementing it is quite another.

Instituting pronatalist policies in democratic societies can be fiscally expensive and politically risky. The long-term interests politicians have for their countries are sometimes at odds with their short-term goal of getting elected.

Possibly as a result, only a few European countries (Bulgaria, France, and Romania) have explicitly pronatalist policies. But political leaders often make indirect pronatalist statements in the context of strengthening family policy. And family assistance policies (such as child allowances to improve purchasing power) prevail in virtually every European country.

Belgium, Finland, Luxembourg, and the German Democratic Republic (GDR) are nations which have instituted a progressive system of child allowances, increasing payments with each additional birth. (And it could well be argued that the policies have the dual purpose of lightening the parents' childrearing burden and raising fertility.)

In 1983, the Netherlands Population Institute (NIDI), with government endorsement, conducted a representative survey of men and women 20 to 64 years old, aimed at determining public acceptability of varying policy measures.

Currently, Dutch women receive paid maternity leave six weeks before and six weeks after childbirth. The majority of those questioned in the NIDI survey would prefer an extension of that maternity leave. The public also showed interest in the expansion of child care centers, according to the survey. Support for tax deductions of child care was largely limited to those with young children, however.

A 1985 Swedish government report on equality between women and men states that one reason women give for not having more children is a " determination to go out to work or do other interesting things."

Sharing the Childrearing Burden

These needs and demands are similar in other European countries. In fact, for now, the irony is that the very policy which promotes social object-

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Future 'Angst' in West Germany

Commissioned by the German Institute for Demography, a survey conducted in 1978 and 1983 of 1,000 married and 1,000 unmarried women, aged 18-28, elicited the women's reasons for restricting their number of children. The leading reasons, given in 1983 order, are as follows (respondents could give more than one reason):

Reason given*	% respondents giving reason	
	1983	1978
Fear ('Angst') of future	48.6	16.6
Society's negative attitude toward children	34.3	22.9
Availability of contraceptives	29.0	40.7
Financial disadvantages	27.1	23.8
Deterioration of social conditions	19.2	14.1

Source: Excerpted from *Zeitschrift fuer Bevolkerungswissenschaft*, January 1985: Katharina Pohl, "Reversal of Trends – or Change of Attitudes?"

*Other reasons given were: insufficient housing; trend of the times; threatening school problems; lack of child-oriented public institutions; insufficient public financial aid; insufficient professional opportunities for children; abortion opportunities; children are a nuisance; too few rooms in the apartment; lack of, or nonexistent, idealism; threat of permanent unemployment for many; divorce problems; experiences from own childhood.

tives for women, for example, their participation in the labor force, is likely to reduce fertility. The proverbial double-edged sword cuts pronatally with one edge and antinatally with the other.

Without increased services such as reasonably priced housing, child care centers, and massive economic incentives to compensate women for lost opportunity costs in the labor market, policies that aim to increase fertility seem bound to fail. The urgency to increase fertility fades into the background against such economic, social, and labor considerations.

We might even speak of a women's liberation cycle; that is, until women reach full equality in the labor market and society has found a way to accommodate childrearing without too many disincentives, fertility might well remain below replacement for some time to come.

Policy options that were once available and attractive to governments, for example, prohibiting abortion (as Romania did in 1966), thereby raising fertility, may no longer be socially acceptable, and new policies will have to be developed in tandem with research that determines what drives fertility behavior in the postindustrial society. This will include taking a closer look at political issues and the perspectives of the individual in the fertility decision-making process.

Ultimate Considerations

As Professor Josef Schmid, the German demographer, has said, the role of the capacity of the state to ultimately influence fertility behavior is limited. The diversity of policy measures from birth grants and marriage grants to child allowances, and the many changes in the late 1970s and early 1980s which extended and improved maternity benefits are testimony to the responsiveness of social services in Europe. It is also an indication of the experimental and transitional nature of European population policy.

However, as at least one native demographer has pointed out, European population policy goals to raise fertility resemble efforts in European zoos (so far marked by failure) to breed the giant panda bear. Any policy that aims to improve the climate for childbearing and further facilitate women's labor-force participation would require substantial fiscal outlays. Until a formula that is generally recognized to achieve this goal is contrived, many couples in Europe will not feel any real incentives to have more children.

But these are still times of high unemployment throughout Europe, in comparison to the United States. In such an environment it would be difficult to get broad public support for pronatalist measures. (During times of high unemployment and fiscal strain in states, it is safe to assume these policies will be up for scrutiny for fiscal viability; means tests and adjustments of ceilings will be made to give the state fiscal flexibility.)

Europe's fertility decline has already proved steeper and lasted longer than many analysts expected. Nonetheless, preserving rare specimens of *Homo europaeus* in zoos alongside giant pandas may be premature. But studying Europeans' anxieties and their alternatives to children might help us understand the changes that have occurred in their values. Understanding these changes would be a prerequisite to formulation of effective population policy and achievement of subsequent replacement fertility. □

America's Homeless

Continued from page 3

estimation of the homeless, found the study's estimates too low.

Another recent addition to the pool of estimates comes from the National Coalition for the Homeless (NCH). In October 1986 NCH surveyed shelter operators in 21 cities across the country. The survey concluded that the numbers of homeless are growing by an average 25 percent per year, and that families with children are now the fastest growing segment of the nation's homeless population. Further, they note that on average, less than 20 percent of the immediate emergency need for beds is being met. The report does not offer national estimates. Instead it provides a city-by-city evaluation of the homeless population and efforts to meet their needs.

A third study, "Responding to Homelessness in America's Cities," was released by The United States Conference of Mayors (USCM) in June 1986. This report concluded that hunger and homelessness rose sharply in urban America last year, despite improvements in the nation's economy. The report, based on a survey of government officials in 25 major cities, found that the number of families with children seeking food and shelter increased "significantly" last year. It did not mention specific national-level numbers.

Who Are They?

The stereotypical homeless person is no longer the "bum" of yesteryear – the middle-aged single white male down on his luck and suffering from alcoholism. The ranks of the homeless now cross demographic boundaries.

Homeless families are on the rise – on this point all the recent studies agree. Twenty-one of the 25 cities in the USCM survey report an increase in the number of homeless children. Twenty-seven percent of the homeless in those 25 cities consist of families with children.

These families are primarily headed by females and are predominantly black, even more so than for homeless individuals, according to the NBER report. Further, the NBER report finds the homeless consist largely of men over 30 and below 60 years of age, with the average age of the homeless being approximately 40 years. Blacks are disproportionately represented among the homeless, while Hispanics are underrepresented. Persons living on the street, rather than in a shelter, were nearly a decade older on average and were much more likely to be white than those living in shelters. In general, the street population seemed to be generally worse off, suffering more from substance abuse, and appeared to be less employable. Whereas 29 percent of shelter residents in the survey reported themselves unable to work, 44 percent of the street residents said they were unable to work.

Overall, along with the 27 percent in families, the USCM reports that 60 percent of the homeless are single men, while 12 percent are single women. About 33 percent of the homeless are considered to be mentally ill.

> Using a mathematical formula, the researchers established a ratio of homeless persons to people in shelters of 3.23 to 1

In the NBER survey, 39 percent of the respondents admitted to having spent time in jail, with an average incarceration period of two years.

Presumed Causes, Proposed Solutions

Why does homelessness persist? Various advocacy groups, such as the NCH, blame it on the lack of federal programs addressing the issue. Virtually all the service providers surveyed in the NCH report cited an extreme scarcity of affordable housing as a leading cause of homelessness. Since 1981, according to the NCH, federally subsidized housing programs have been cut over 69 percent.

The NBER study points out that, contrary to popular impressions, deinstitutionalization is not to blame for the recent surge in homelessness, since it occurred for the most part in the 1960s. Deinstitutionalization, however, did create a "new" subpopulation of whom many were in a psychological and economic position that made them particularly prone to fall into homelessness when faced with adverse circumstances.

The NBER report blames homelessness rather on a combination of changing social characteristics and changing housing market, which has created a dearth of low-cost housing. The report points to the growing number of female-headed households, coupled with increasing drug abuse, as a driving factor in the rise of homelessness. The report also sees the recession-related increase in the number of persons with exceptionally low incomes as a contributing, though not prime, factor. Since homelessness worsened from 1983 to 1985, after the recession of the early 1980s, economic factors cannot be the sole cause of homelessness.

A general consensus exists that emergency shelters, while necessary to protect the lives of those without homes, are not really addressing the roots of homelessness, and thus are not real solutions. Activists urge long-term federal initiatives, such as increased public housing, and measures such as preventing evictions from subsidized housing. The Reagan Administration, however, says that the homeless are the jurisdictions of state and local governments – not the federal government.

With little or no money to spend and often limited mental faculties, the homeless are for the most part politically powerless. But that may change. Courts in New York, New Jersey, California, and West Virginia have to various extents recognized a legal right to shelter for the homeless. In addition, Rep. Mickey Leland (D-Tex.) and Sen. Albert Gore (D-Tenn.) have introduced the Homeless Persons' Survival Act (H.R. 5140 and S. 2608). That act, proposed by NCH, along with 10 other national organizations, embodies a three-part program to address homelessness: (1) emergency relief, (2) preventive measures, and (3) long-term solutions.

– J.A.

Abortion's Legality Continues to Spread

An estimated 40 to 60 million abortions are performed in the world each year, some 33 million of these are legal. The worldwide abortion rate, including illegal abortions, stands between 37 and 55 abortions per 1,000 women aged 15 to 44 (the U.S.'s abortion rate is 27 per 1,000). (This would mean that approximately 1 out of 4 pregnancies end in abortion.)

These data come from the newly published *Induced Abortion: A World Review, 1986*, from the Alan Guttmacher Institute (AGI). This factbook, published every two years since 1973, was the brainchild of demographer Christopher Tietze. Tietze had just begun the update for the 1986 edition when he died suddenly in April 1984.

After his death, AGI agreed to take over from the Population Council the responsibility of publishing the factbook. Stanley Henshaw, Deputy Director of Research for AGI, heads up the project and is co-author, along with Tietze, of this sixth edition.

The factbook presents current country-specific information from a worldwide survey on the legal status of abortion, as well as trends in the accessibility and incidence of abortion throughout the world and the characteristics of women obtaining abortion. The factbook also includes time-series data and information on the medical aspects and health impact of abortion.

The trend throughout the world in recent years has been toward less restrictive abortion laws. According to the factbook, 75 percent of the world's people live in countries where abortion is legal at least for health reasons, and more than half of these live in areas where abortion can be obtained on request.

Abortion is now legal in virtually all developed countries and many developing countries. According to the survey, four countries with populations of 1 million or more (Taiwan, Turkey, Portugal, and Spain) have made their

Continued on next page

POSITIONS/PROFESSIONALS

The Rockefeller Foundation continues its **Social Science Research Fellowships in Population Studies**. Under this program, young social scientists from the U.S. and Canada who are interested in population and development issues will be given the opportunity to work in a developing-country institution for up to two years. The program is designed to provide demographers with an opportunity to obtain research experience in a developing country. Fellows are usually assigned to a university that has a training and research program in population studies, or to an autonomous research center.

Candidates should not be more than 38 years old and should have completed doctoral studies during the past 10 years in a social science discipline with a specialization in demography. The ideal candidate would already have a faculty appointment and be able to obtain the necessary leave of absence. Applications must be submitted by Dec. 31, 1986; for further information, contact: Fellowship Office, Rockefeller Foundation, 1133 Avenue of the Americas, New York, N.Y. 10036.

POPULATION UPDATE

Estimated United States Population:

As of May 1, 1986	241,121,000
As of May 1, 1985	238,888,000

The above estimates include armed forces overseas and are from U.S. Bureau of the Census, Current Population Reports, Series P-25, No. 989.

Estimated World Population:

As of October 1986	4,963,000,000
Annual growth	83,000,000

Estimated by extrapolation of the mid-1986 world population given on PRB's 1986 World Population Data Sheet.

Latest Provisional Statistics for the U.S.: May 1986

	12 months ending with May					
	Number		Rate			
Item	1986	1985	1986	1985	1984	1983
Live births	3,759,000	3,714,000	15.7	15.7	15.5	15.9
Deaths	2,087,000	2,080,000	8.7	8.8	8.6	8.6
Natural increase	1,672,000	1,634,000	7.0	6.9	6.9	7.3
Marriages	2,417,000	2,477,000	10.1	10.4	10.4	10.7
Divorces	1,183,000	1,162,000	4.9	4.9	5.0	5.1
Infant deaths	39,100	39,500	10.4	10.7	10.7	11.1
Population base (in millions)			239.8	237.1	234.7	232.5

Note: Rates are given per 1,000 population, except for infant deaths, which are given per 1,000 live births. Rates are based on revised population estimates from the 1980 Census.

Source: *Monthly Vital Statistics Report* (Vol. 35, No. 5) from the National Center for Health Statistics.

Abortion

Continued from previous page

abortion laws less restrictive since 1983, and only one country – Romania, in 1984 – has significantly reduced access to legal abortion since 1983 as part of a national effort to increase fertility.

Mortality from legal abortion is lower than that associated with childbearing throughout the world. The legal-abortion-related mortality rate in most countries is now generally below 1 death per 100,000 legal abortions. Mortality is high, however, where large numbers of illegal abortions are performed by nonmedical personnel, as is the case in a number of Latin American countries.

In countries where abortion is legal under most circumstances, the number of abortions ranges from one-tenth of the number of live births (the Netherlands) to twice that of live births (the Soviet Union). Except in the socialist countries of Europe, the proportion of all pregnancies that are terminated by abortion is higher among women under age 15 than among any other subgroup. *– J.A.*

New Population Kit Free to Model UN Participants

PRB has produced kits designed to educate participants in Model UN conferences about population issues. The project, sponsored by PRB, the Rockefeller Foundation, and the Agency for International Development-Development Education Program, is part of an effort to increase the coverage of population and development issues in Model UN conferences.

Each two-pocket folder package will contain seven 6-page regional overviews on population perspectives, along with a 12-page world overview, which includes a glossary and bibliography, and materials from PRB and the UN Fund for Population Activities. It is available free of charge to Model UN participants. In addition, PRB is preparing profiles of population policies of specific countries on a by-request basis.

Model UN organizers and participants who would like to know more about the project should write to: Model UN Project, Population Reference Bureau, Inc., 777 14th St. N.W., Washington, D.C. 20005.

TAKE A NUMBER

U.S. Life Expectancy, etc. The National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS) has released its summary report of U.S. vital statistics for 1985, and two important measures showed little improvement. Provisional data indicate that life expectancy at birth remained 74.7 years in 1985, the same as the 1984 level, which was a record high. Life expectancy declined slightly for black males (by 0.2 years) and for white females (0.1), but remained the same for black females and white males.

During the year, death rates were higher in 1985 than in 1984 for pneumonia and influenza, partly due to a flu outbreak in early 1985. Nephritis and septicemia also showed slight increases, while cerebrovascular diseases and motor vehicle accidents both declined. The infant mortality rate in 1985 was 10.6 infant deaths per 1,000 live births, not statistically different from the 10.7 rate of 1984. This reflects a continuation of the slowing of the decline in the infant mortality rate since 1981, NCHS noted.

New Projections of U.S. Hispanics: The Census Bureau has released some results of its projections of the U.S. Hispanic population (the full report is to be published in November). The projections show that the Hispanic population, estimated at 15.8 million in 1985, would rise to about 25 million by 2000 and to 60 million by 2080, according to the "Middle Series" projection.

Projected U.S. Spanish Origin Population (in millions)

1982	15.8
1985	17.3
1990	19.9
2000	25.2
2010	30.8
2020	36.5
2030	41.9
2040	46.7
2050	50.8
2060	54.2
2070	57.2
2080	59.6

The Bureau's other projections series show widely different results, with the Low Series projecting a Hispanic population of 35 million by 2080 and the High Series, 141 million. *PT* will print a full summary of the projections when the Bureau's final report has been released. *– C.H.*

ADDENDA

"Bobby, I never noticed any damn baby boom, did you?"

Drawing by Wm. Hamilton; ©1986 The New Yorker Magazine, Inc.

CURRENT READINGS

PRB welcomes materials on population topics for possible inclusion in Current Readings. Publishers may address review copies to Book Review Editor, POPULATION TODAY, Population Reference Bureau, 777 14th St., N.W., Washington, D.C. 20005.

FOOD IN THE THIRD WORLD: Past Trends and Projections to 2000, Research Report 52, by Leonardo A. Paulino. Washington, DC.: International Food Policy Research Institute, June 1986. 76 pages. Limited free distribution. ISBN 0-89629-054-9.

The most disturbing image associated with unbridled population growth is that of famine: too many people, too little food. This image compels demographers to take note of the findings of this new, well researched publication which examines the trends in production, consumption, and trade of the basic food staples in 105 developing countries. The volume attempts to project and pinpoint food surpluses and shortages between now and the end of the century.

Relying on statistics from the UN Food and Agriculture Organization, Paulino found that increases in food production just about equaled population growth in the developing countries (excluding China) from 1961-1980, but that the net import of the most basic food staples grew about threefold during the same period. This deficit will worsen substantially in many countries, particularly in sub-Saharan Africa, by the year 2000.

Food in the Third World provides a baseline study showing the implications of the continuation of current trends with the hope of igniting some policy action by international aid agencies and national governments to forestall serious food shortages.

— Mary Kent

AFRICA IN CRISIS: the Causes, the Cures of Environmental Bankruptcy, by Lloyd Timberlake. An Earthscan Paperback. Washington, DC.: International Institute for Environment and Development, 1985. 232 pages. $7.75. ISBN 0-905347-57-9.

A winner of the U.S. World Hunger Media Award in 1985, this book shows that drought was not the only factor behind this decade's famine in Africa. Long-standing unsound economic, agricultural, and environmental strategies laid the groundwork.

This book outlines some of the steps taken in the past to improve environmental conditions in Africa. It gives the current status of each environmental issue and prescribes the necessary progress needed for future subsistence.

The book concludes with discussions of the institutionalization of environmental degradation through apartheid in South Africa, the relationship between famine and military conflict, the environmental refugee crisis, and the future of aid and development for Africa.

Timberlake offers a well written, penetrating resource with extensive coverage of environmental issues and their economic, social, and political causes and results. This survey serves as a text on environment and development in Africa suitable for all disciplines.

— Kimberly Crews

AFRICAN ECONOMIC HANDBOOK, by Michael Hodd. Detroit, Mich.: Gale Research, 1986. 335 pages. $80.00. ISBN 0-86338-08803.

A useful handbook is characterized by timely statistical and summary data. This is such a resource. It begins with a comparison of Africa and other world regions and a regional overview considering general economic circumstances. It includes a succinct discussion of the broad regional population problems of current concern, followed by a detailed scrutiny of recent economic strategies and an economic outlook based upon World Bank forecasts.

Topics covered include population, output and income, agriculture, international trade, aid, income distribution, foreign debt, government spending, education, health and welfare aspects of economic structure in the regions, gross domestic product growth, investment, international trade, exchange rate, and price distortions.

With the aim of comprehensive statistical coverage, the handbook uses all available data. Where possible, data within the statistical fact file are based on 1982 population figures and 1970-1982 performance data; the larger countries have 11 years of time series data with figures up to 1984. It boasts a fine statistical appendix.

The handbook is ideal for students, browsers, and quick reference seekers alike.

— Denise Molajo

Books Received

ELECTIONS AND DEMOCRATIZATION IN LATIN AMERICA, 1980-85, edited Paul W. Drake and Eduardo Silva. San Diego, Calif.: Center for Iberian and Latin American Studies and University of California, 1986. 335 pages.

THE IMPACT OF POPULATION CHANGE ON BUSINESS ACTIVITY IN RURAL AMERICA, by Kenneth M. Johnson. Boulder, Colo.: Westview Press, October 1985. 180 pages.

MAIN STREET AMERICA AND THE THIRD WORLD, by John Maxwell Hamilton. Washington, DC.: Seven Locks Press, 1986. 184 pages.

REGIONAL IMPACTS OF U.S.-MEXICAN RELATIONS, edited by Ina Rosenthal-Urey. San Diego, Calif.: University of California Center for U.S.-Mexican Studies, 1986 (Monograph Series, 16). 154 pages.

TEACHING DEMOGRAPHY: A Summary Handlist of Universities and Other Institutions (Vol. 1: "Teaching Demography," 99 pages. Vol. 2: Details of Curricula and Related Matters in Universities and Other Institutions Teaching Demography, 97 pages), by the Department of Technical Co-operation for Development. New York: United Nations, 1986.

WORLD REFUGEE REPORT: A Report Submitted to the Congress as Part of the Consultations on FY 1987 Refugee Admissions to the United States, prepared by the Bureau for Refugee Programs. Washington, DC.: The United States Dept. of State, September 1986. 103 pages.

PUBLICATION ORDER FORM Fall/Winter 1986

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- ☐ Population Pressures in Latin America, by Thomas W. Merrick, with PRB staff
- ☐ Immigration to the U.S., by Leon F. Bouvier and Robert W. Gardner, forthcoming November 1986

Volume 40 (1985)
- ☐ Sub-Saharan Africa: Population Pressures on Development, by Thomas J. Goliber
- ☐ Adolescent Fertility: Worldwide Concerns, by Judith Senderowitz and John M. Paxman
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- ☐ Asian Americans: Growth, Change, and Diversity, by Robert W. Gardner, Bryant Robey, and Peter C. Smith

Volume 39 (1984)
- ☐ Planet Earth 1984-2034: A Demographic Vision, by Leon F. Bouvier
- ☐ Israel's Population: The Challenge of Pluralism, by Dov Friedlander and Calvin Goldscheider
- ☐ The Business of Demographics, by Cheryl Russell
- ☐ Delayed Childbearing in the U.S.: Facts and Fictions, by Wendy H. Baldwin and Christine Winquist Nord
- ☐ Understanding U.S. Fertility: Findings from the National Survey of Family Growth, Cycle III, by William F. Pratt et al.

Volume 38 (1983)
- ☐ Third World Family Planning Programs: Measuring the Costs, by Nancy Yinger et al.
- ☐ China: Demographic Billionaire, by Yuan Tien
- ☐ U.S. Hispanics: Changing the Face of America, by Cary Davis, Carl Haub, and JoAnne Willette
- ☐ The Changing American Family, by Arland Thornton and Deborah Freedman

Volume 37 (1982)
- ☐ The World Fertility Survey: Charting Global Childbearing, by Robert Lightbourne, Jr. and Susheela Singh, with Cynthia P. Green
- ☐ U.S. Population: Where We Are, Where We're Going, by Population Reference Bureau staff and guest experts
- ☐ The Soviet Union: Population Trends and Dilemmas, by Murray Feshbach
- ☐ Black America in the 1980s, by John Reid

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